

*B1*  
- 2 - (amended)

Method for producing a recombinant protein of Claim 1, in which the nucleic acid sequence which is capable of inactivating the gene encoding a TnaA tryptophanase is introduced into the DNA of the prokaryotic host cell.

*B2*  
- 6 - (amended)

Method for producing a recombinant protein of Claim 1, in which the induction of said promoter which is followed, in the 3' position, by a nucleic acid sequence encoding a molecule which is ribonucleotide or protein in nature, and which acts negatively on the Ptrp promoter or its transcription product is obtained by exerting on said promoter an inhibiting or activating effect.

*B3*  
- 10 - (amended)

A first construct for transforming a prokaryotic host cell which can be transformed with a second construct for expressing a gene encoding a recombinant protein placed under the control of a Ptrp tryptophan operon promoter in a prokaryotic host cell, wherein the first construct comprises a nucleic acid sequence which is capable of inactivating the gene encoding a TnaA tryptophanase when said nucleic acid sequence is introduced into said host cell.

*B3*  
- 11 - (amended)

The first construct of Claim 10, wherein it also comprises, upstream of said nucleic acid sequence capable of inactivating the gene encoding a TnaA tryptophanase when said nucleic acid sequence is introduced into said host cell, all or part of the nucleic acid sequence of a Ptta tryptophanase operon promoter.

*B3*  
- 12 - (amended)

The first construct of Claim 10, wherein said nucleic acid sequence capable of inactivating the gene encoding a TnaA tryptophanase when said nucleic acid sequence is introduced into said host cell comprises a mutated fragment of the coding sequence of said TnaA tryptophanase.

- 13 - (amended)

The first construct of Claim 12, wherein said mutated fragment is obtained by inserting a stop codon at a position such that the sequence of the mutated fragment thus obtained encodes a protein fragment lacking tryptophanase activity.

- 14 - (amended)

The first construct of Claim 12, wherein said mutated fragment is a mutated fragment of the coding sequence of the TnaA tryptophanase of said host cell.

- 15 - (amended)

The first construct of Claim 10, wherein said nucleic acid sequence capable of inactivating the gene encoding a TnaA tryptophanase when said nucleic acid sequence is introduced into said host cell is the nucleic acid sequence comprising all or part of the sequence of a promoter followed, in the 3' position, by a nucleic acid sequence encoding a molecule which is ribonucleotide or protein in nature, and which acts negatively on the Ptrp promoter or its transcription product.

- 16 - (amended)

The first construct of Claim 15, wherein said promoter followed, in the 3' position, by a nucleic acid sequence encoding a molecule which is ribonucleotide or protein in nature, and which acts negatively on the Ptrp promoter, is all, or a part permitting promoter activity, of the Ptta tryptophanase operon promoter.

- 17 - (amended)

The first construct of Claim 16, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding a molecule which is ribonucleotide or protein in nature, and which acts negatively on the Ptrp promoter, is the sequence encoding the TrpR tryptophan operon aporepressor or one of its biologically active fragments.